

ports and to review all our security operations.

We'll continue to press forward on all three of these fronts. But we cannot cast aside any tools in this fight for the security of our country and the safety of our people. That is exactly what the Republican majority in Congress did by stripping from the antiterrorism legislation key provisions that law enforcement needs to help them find out, track down, and shut down terrorists.

Law enforcement has asked for wiretap authority to enable them to follow terrorists as they move from phone to phone. This is the only way to track stealthy terrorists as they plot their crimes. This authority has already been granted to our law enforcement officials when they're dealing with organized criminals. Surely, it is even more urgent to give them this authority when it comes to terrorists. But Congress said no.

And law enforcement has also asked that explosives used to make a bomb be marked with a taggant, a trace chemical or a microscopic plastic chip scattered throughout the explosives. This way sophisticated machines can find bombs before they explode, and when they do explode police scientists can trace a bomb back to the people who actually sold the explosive materials that led to the bomb.

Now, tagging works. In Switzerland over the past decade it's helped to identify who made bombs and explosives in over 500 cases. When it was being tested in our country several years ago, it helped police to find a murderer in Maryland.

In the last 2 weeks since the Olympic bombing, our law enforcement officers have been working around the clock, but they have been denied a scientific tool that might help to solve investigations like this one.

Our antiterrorism bill would have given us the ability to require tagging gunpowder often used in making pipe bombs. The Republicans in Congress could give law enforcement this antiterrorism tool, but once again they're listening to the gun lobby over law enforcement. It may be good politics, but it's not good for the American people.

This is a reasonable proposal from our law enforcement community. It doesn't have anything to do with limiting people's ability

to own or use guns in a lawful manner. The same people who opposed the Brady bill and the assault weapons ban are opposing this provision. I'd just like to remind them that no hunter or sportsman has lost a weapon or the right to use a weapon in a lawful manner as a result of the Brady bill or the assault weapons ban, but we're getting rid of 19 deadly assault weapons, and 60,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers have not gotten handguns because of the Brady bill.

We should have a good taggants provision in our antiterrorism legislation. So let's put aside interest group politics and honor the victims of terrorism, protect our people, and support our law enforcement officials by giving them the tools they plainly need.

This fight against terrorism will be long and hard; there will be setbacks along the way. But let's remember, we can win. Already we have prevented planned terrorist attacks on the Holland Tunnel in New York, on the United Nations building, on our airplanes flying out of our west coast airports. Already we have succeeded in extraditing terrorists back to America and convicting terrorists and arresting others who are suspected of terrorism. We can whip this problem.

Just as no enemy could drive us from the fight to meet our challenges and protect our values in World War II and the cold war, we cannot be driven from the fight against today's enemy, terrorism. We know that if we all work together, America will prevail.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 3:30 p.m. on August 9 at the Chapman Ranch in Jackson Hole, WY, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 10.

Remarks on Signing the New World Mine Property Agreement at Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming August 12, 1996

Thank you. This is not the hardest speech I ever had to give. [*Laughter*] What a happy day. Let me thank you, Sue Glidden, for all the work you've done. Just before she came up here one of the folks sitting back here with us said, "Well, now what are you going to do?" And she said, "Now I have my life

back." I'm sure she'll find something to do with it—highly productive.

Thank you very much, Mike Clark, for all the great work you have done. Thank you, Mike Finley and Marv Jensen and all the people at Yellowstone who do such a magnificent job preserving our Nation's great treasure. I'd like to thank John Schmidt and Jim Pipkin. Ian Bayer, thank you very much for what you said and for what you've done.

I can't say enough to thank the other people in the administration; Katie McGinty who has been wonderful about this. And you mentioned the Vice President—I thank you very much. We have lunch once a week and at least every other lunch I asked him or he reported to me on whether this was ever going to get done or not. So in the middle of Bosnia and the budget and everything, we were—for one year—I know more about this some days than I wish I had known. *[Laughter]*

Thank you, Jack Ward Thomas. I'd like to thank some other people who are here, and a couple who aren't. Thank you, Senator Birch Bayh, for your role in this. I want to thank my good friends Congressman Pat Williams and Congressman Bill Richardson for working on this. Bill Richardson has been making peace all around the world the last 2 years, but he found time to do this as well.

I want to thank Senator and Mrs. Rockefeller who came up with me. Jay and Sharon Rockefeller are your neighbors. As you know, they live near the Grand Tetons and are very concerned about it. And I want to thank former Wyoming Governor Mike Sullivan and his wife, Jane Sullivan, who came up with me, and they've been longtime friends of Hillary's and mine.

And I want to thank all of you who were in that meeting with Hillary and with me a year ago. We learned a lot. It was a great occasion for us, and we've relived it several times. I also want to say a special word of recognition for the two families that are behind me. We just hauled them up here. *[Laughter]* They're laughing—are they agreeing with me? *[Laughter]* They are the Franklin family from Sioux Falls and the Pamprin family from Green Bay, Wisconsin. I asked them to come here—asked them to stand up here.

I asked them to come to make this point: This fight was not simply waged by those of you who live here for your families and your community and your future. You waged this fight for all the people of the United States and, indeed, the people of the world who love and believe in the preservation of our natural resources who come and participate. And I thought it was important that somebody be reminded somehow by their presence here that there are millions and millions and millions of people who will directly benefit from the decision we announced today. And you're seeing some of them. We thank you.

Let me say, for all kinds of reasons I'm also glad to see that John Denver is here today, and thank you very much for coming. And if you want to sing, I won't talk. *[Laughter]* We're glad to have you here.

Hillary and Chelsea and I came back here this year, drawn by the magnet of this magnificent place, reconnecting something that I think is in all of us, the yearning to have a bond with the nature that God has given us. Yellowstone, as all of you know—but as I think we should remind the country today—our first national park has our largest herd of elk and bison; more than 200 geysers; marvelous, pristine lakes and majestic mountains; places where we can teach our children about the power and the mysteries of nature.

Yellowstone was entrusted into our care as a people, a whole people, more than 120 years ago now. And today we are saying to the rest of the world, to the rest of our country, and to future generations of America, we have been worthy of that trust, and we are giving it on to our children and our children's children.

Again, I want to thank those who were part of the Yellowstone dialog. I want to thank Senator Baucus, who could not be here today, for his five-point plan for maximum protection of the park before the proposed mine could go forward. I want to thank the members of my Cabinet who are not here, including especially Secretary Babbitt and Secretary Glickman and EPA Administrator Browner and Attorney General Reno, because they all supported this, as well. And I wish they could be here with us to celebrate this day.

The agreement that has been reached with Crown Butte to terminate this project altogether proves that everyone can agree that Yellowstone is more precious than gold. As has been said before, this is a victory for everyone involved; the American people and our future win because Yellowstone will be protected from the environmental hazards of mining. Crown Butte's shareholders win because their property rights will be protected. We are all protected from years and years of expensive and bitter litigation. And while there is still work to do and work in which members of the general public must and will be involved, we are going to move forward. And this signing today means that it will come out the way so many of you have worked for, for so many years.

Mining jobs are good jobs, and mining is important to our national economy and to our national security. But we can't have mines everywhere, and mines that could threaten any national treasures like Yellowstone—that's too much to ask of the American people. The company has recognized this, and we thank them. Again, I want to emphasize they are not only walking away from a gold mine, they have also agreed to finance the cleanup of historic mining pollution that predates their work at the site. That is a very important part of this agreement, and the company deserves a lot of credit for it, and we ought to appreciate what they're doing.

Again, I want to thank Ian Bayer and Joe Baylis of Crown Butte for their extraordinary commitment. Let me thank the Members of Congress again, those who are here and Senator Baucus, who isn't, and also my senior Senator and a great friend of Yellowstone and the Nation's environment, Senator Dale Bumpers, who very much wanted to be with us today.

I also want to say in closing that the way this was done should become a model for America's challenges, not only in the environment but in other areas as well. When we deal with problems of national significance that have to be resolved by people who understand the particulars and who will be most affected by it, it will be well to remember how this was done. Yes, I did say that I wanted to preserve this park. And yes, I did put

the Vice President and Katie McGinty and the Cabinet on it. But the reason it worked, especially given the way the mining law works, as all of you know, is that we had a collaborative process that involved people reflecting all the interests involved who worked in good faith. That is the way we have to meet America's challenges as we move into this new century.

We don't have to make a choice between the environment and the economy. We don't have to have every single challenge we face drag on forever and ever and ever, into court suit after court suit after court suit, being fodder for politicians that campaign from rhetoric that divides us instead of unites us. All of you have proved that America can be better than that. This is a very, very great day for our country not only because what we have done is right but because of the way we have done it. That is right as well.

When Yellowstone was created as the world's first national park over 120 years ago, it was as a result of a bipartisan agreement and a consensus which existed at that time that this place was too precious not to be preserved. God created the mountains of Yellowstone and the minerals beneath them, but it is up to us to preserve them. You have done that today. And you have done it in the right way.

So I ask you today as you leave here to make sure that we all teach our children and grandchildren the lessons we have learned today, to make sure that future generations of our country never forget that we have something here we can never replace but also never forget that when we meet each other across the lines that divide us in good faith, with honest, open hearts and a real desire to move forward together, we can do it.

We celebrate that today. And as your President, I am very grateful for every single one of you who played a role in this historic moment for America.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

Now, I can't forget the actual purpose for which we came. *[Laughter]* Katie, Mike, and Ian are going to sign the agreement.

[At this point, the agreement was signed.]

We're adjourned.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:25 a.m. at Barronette Peak Overlook. In his remarks, he referred to Sue Glidden, owner, Cooke City General Store, Cooke City, MT; Mike Clark, executive director, Greater Yellowstone Coalition; Michael V. Finley, superintendent, and Marvin Jensen, deputy superintendent, Yellowstone National Park; John Schmidt, Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice; James Pipkin, Counselor to the Secretary of the Interior; Ian Bayer, president, Battle Mountain Canada Ltd.; Joe Baylis, president, Crown Butte Mines, Inc.; Jack Ward Thomas, chief, U.S. Forest Service; and singer John Denver.

Remarks on Signing the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1996 in Jackson Hole, Wyoming

August 13, 1996

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Let me, first of all, thank the Teton Science School, its board members, and its staff who hosted us today. I want to acknowledge the school's 15 professional residents who are graduating today and heading off to teach in environmental centers around the country. We thank you for what you're doing.

I want to acknowledge Superintendent Jack Neckels and the staff of the Grand Teton National Park, and Bridger-Teton National Forest Supervisor Sandra Key. And I want to thank all of you.

My family and I are having a wonderful time again in Wyoming this year. And yesterday we had a fabulous day for America when we announced the agreement not to build the gold mine near the northeast corner of Yellowstone and that the mining company would agree to clean up pollution at the site, spend over \$20 million to do it, including pollution that they did not cause, in return for which the United States will recognize their property rights and their investment and make a land swap.

So I think it was an agreement in which everyone won. And again, I would say what I said yesterday: I hope that we can see the kind of coming together in positive resolution of these matters that we saw yesterday in many, many other areas. We have to find a way to preserve our environment and to grow

our economy, and we don't have to make many of the choices that seem to be frozen in the public debate today. So I was very encouraged by yesterday.

I also want to say that this is a very good day—[*applause*—thank you. [*Laughter*] I planted those people out there. [*Laughter*]

I want to thank the members of the energy industry who have come from all over America to be with me today as I sign the Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act into law.

This is the latest in a series of bipartisan efforts which passed the Congress in some cases unanimously, in other cases almost unanimously at the very end of the session before the August recess began. They represented a dramatic departure from what happened in 1995 and the first half of 1996. We have welfare reform, health care reform, a higher minimum wage, better retirement provisions and other incentives for people who are running small businesses in America, safer food and drinking water as a result of these initiatives.

And I hope that this is an omen of things to come, because this is the way America moves forward. When we tone our rhetoric down and work together and roll up our sleeves and try to meet our legitimate interests and protect our values, come to grips with these challenges, we can do it. And I am very, very pleased by what happened in the last few days of Congress. And as I said, I think the American people are, and I hope we can see more of it.

Let me tell you a little about this act, which passed with unanimous bipartisan support in both Houses of Congress. By simplifying the way that royalties are collected and clarifying existing laws, this law will speed the collection of millions of dollars in Federal and State revenues which the Government is due, create many new jobs for America's workers, and most important of all, will help to reduce our own Nation's reliance on foreign oil and gas.

Our economy, our environment, our national security depend upon a healthy domestic oil and gas industry. Many Americans don't know it, but a significant percentage of the oil and natural gas produced in the United States comes from Federal lands.